

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 25, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 25

Introduced by Assembly Member Campos

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Ammiano, Atkins, Beall, Bill Berryhill, Block, Blumenfield, Bonilla, Bradford, Brownley, Buchanan, Butler, Charles Calderon, Carter, Cedillo, Chesbro, Conway, Cook, Davis, Dickinson, Eng, Feuer, Fletcher, Fong, Fuentes, Furutani, Galgiani, Gatto, Gordon, Grove, Hagman, Harkey, Hayashi, Roger Hernández, Hill, Huber, Hueso, Huffman, Jeffries, Logue, Bonnie Lowenthal, Ma, Mendoza, Monning, Nestande, Nielsen, Olsen, Pan, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Portantino, Silva, Skinner, Smyth, Solorio, Torres, Valadao, Wagner, Wieckowski, Williams, and Yamada)

February 17, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 25—Relative to arts education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 25, as amended, Campos. Arts Education Month.

This measure would declare March 2011 to be Arts Education Month, would encourage all elected officials to participate with their educational communities in celebrating the arts, and would urge all residents to become interested in and give full support to quality school arts programs for children and youth.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Arts education, which includes dance, music,
- 2 theatre, and the visual arts, is an essential and integral part of basic

1 education for all pupils in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades
2 1 to 12, inclusive; and

3 WHEREAS, The arts are crucial to achieving a state educational
4 policy that is devoted to the teaching of basic academic skills and
5 lifelong learning capacities with the goal of truly preparing all
6 children for success after high school regardless of gender, age,
7 economic status, physical ability, or learning ability; and

8 WHEREAS, A systematic, substantive, and sequential visual
9 and performing arts curriculum addresses and develops ways of
10 thinking, questioning, expression, and learning that complement
11 learning in other core subjects, but that is unique in what it has to
12 offer; and

13 WHEREAS, Pupils benefit from arts learning in the areas of
14 cultural understanding, readiness for learning and creative thinking,
15 cognitive outcomes, emotional intelligence and expression, social
16 interaction and collaboration, and preparation for the workplace
17 and lifelong learning; and

18 WHEREAS, Arts education in California is mandated for pupils
19 in grades 1 to 12, inclusive, by Sections 51210 and 51220 of the
20 Education Code, which provide, in part, that the adopted course
21 of study shall include instruction in “[v]isual and performing arts,
22 including instruction in the subjects of dance, music, theatre, and
23 visual arts, aimed at the development of aesthetic appreciation and
24 the skills of creative expression”; and

25 WHEREAS, The arts are recognized as part of a quality
26 education, and the University of California and the California State
27 University have instituted a policy that includes visual and
28 performing arts as a college preparatory subjects for all high school
29 pupils wishing to enter California’s institutions of higher education;
30 and

31 WHEREAS, In 2006, the Legislature passed and Governor
32 Schwarzenegger signed into law a landmark investment in music
33 and arts education programs, including a block grant \$105 million
34 to support standards-aligned instruction in kindergarten and grades
35 1 to 12, inclusive; and

36 WHEREAS, In 2006, the Legislature also passed and Governor
37 Schwarzenegger signed into law an additional \$500 million to be
38 distributed on a one-time basis for the purchase of visual and
39 performing arts and physical education professional development
40 supplies and equipment; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2007, this ongoing investment in arts education
2 plus a cost-of-living increase was passed by the Legislature and
3 signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger; and

4 WHEREAS, The Legislature intends this funding to help
5 implement a comprehensive vision for arts education at the local
6 level, to ensure that every pupil in California benefits from this
7 investment; and

8 WHEREAS, This funding is the first step in investing in quality
9 visual and performing arts programs for all California pupils; and

10 WHEREAS, Many national and state professional arts education
11 associations hold celebrations in the month of March, giving
12 California schools a unique opportunity to focus on the value of
13 the arts for all pupils, to foster cross-cultural understanding, to
14 give recognition to the state's outstanding young artists, and to
15 enhance public support for this essential part of the curriculum;
16 now, therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
18 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims the month of
19 March 2011 as Arts Education Month and encourages all elected
20 officials to participate with their educational communities in
21 celebrating the arts with meaningful activities and programs for
22 pupils, teachers, and the public that demonstrate learning and
23 understanding in the visual and performing arts, and urges all
24 residents to become interested in and give full support to quality
25 school arts programs for children and youth; and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
27 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.